JL- House committee/Cuba 11/19/76

Earlier today you told me of the heavy NBC play of the report the committee was going to depose Castro with his prior agreement. I did not vatch this coverage yesterday. I did see tohight's NBC-TV news. Early in the show Brinkley repeated the essence of NBC's last night's reports, the committee's denial and then said we stick by our origonal report. I was rather surprised. They could have ignored their prior coverage. There was no real need to address their yesterday's story or stories today. They did not really address this or these. Instead they restricted themselves to the briefest remakrs suitable for later citation. This is one of the factors in the story that lead me to believe they had a good inside source and that they had reason to believe their account was and remains true. Assuming the foregoing to be true, as I think it does not have to be but probably is, this does not mean that the interview is going to take place. Were it to now it would be silly because there is novody on the committee who knows enough to ask questions about it or respond to answers with further questions. Thw whole thing, sketchy is it now is to me. leads me to believe that NBC may have what it regards as a solid inside source, probably a Member, and that he is certain. That he is certain does not now mean that there will be such an interview. However, early on Sprague did tell the press that he might interview Castro. This does fit with that. If there has been any demand for such an interview I am unaware of it. To carry this farthur, it is not unreasonable to wonder if someone on the committee floated this one.

HW